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A Superman Couldn't Do It.

The resumption of American entanglement in the inveterate disputes, quarrels and feuds of Europe is so prompt as to be sudden. Answering immediately the Adriatic letters of President Wilson in crafty if polished diplomacy, Premiers Lloyd George and Millerand have, in the vernacular of our own simple minded folk, passed the buck to the creator of the League of Nations.

The British Government, the French Government, the Italian Government, the near Governments of Jugo-Slavia and all the others stretching back to and through the Balkans, have never wanted the United States to be excluded from the terms of settlement. Not they! Next to wanting to discover an arrangement that would approximate the maximum or cover the minimum of satisfaction to Italy, to Jugo-Slavia, to Albania, to everybody involved in the Adriatic area of high explosives, there is nothing they have wanted so much as to get us involved in that precarious business.

Great Britain and France have realized, as the peoples most directly concerned have realized, that there was no ideal solution of the problem. Under such circumstances they have sought a compromise that Italy, Jugo-Slavia and the other interested parties could be induced to accept. They thought they had found it; for Italy, Jugo-Slavia and the others seemed agreeable to the Anglo-French plan, which gave nobody what he demanded, but gave everybody something he was willing to take in place of what he had demanded.

But if President Wilson believes that he can supply the 100 per cent. ideal arrangement he is earnestly invited to come along and do it. If President Wilson believes that he can get the various conflicting claimants to imagine that his arrangement assures perfect justice to all, no matter what one side may lose or some other side may gain, his is the plan they have been looking for as a better one than theirs. If President Wilson believes that under his tutelage all the jealous, hostile, seething disputants will voluntarily yield to one another in the true spirit of the brotherhood of man, he cannot get into the affair too fast to suit those who are crazy to get out. Then they will all have us, the American people, where they want us—up to our necks in the most dangerous of the world's quicksands all the way from the combustible Adriatic to the bedevilled Balkans.

Thus the Prime Ministers of Great Britain and France, discouraged, wornout, distracted over the Adriatic crisis hand it to Mr. Wilson neatly tied up in a package which might well be labelled "Dynamite." For nobody on this earthly domain could give full satisfaction to all the irreconcilable elements clustered around the Adriatic. In Europe, where everybody knows how easily the explosives are touched off, nobody imagines that even a superman could do it. And nobody in Europe is held by himself or by any of his fellows to be a superman. Wherefore, if Mr. Wilson thinks he can do it, he gets the job—unless, now that he is confronted with the very practical horns of the very real dilemma, he ducks.

The Public Refuses to Be Hurried.

Two hours of the time of the Board of Estimate were given up on Friday to hearing arguments on whether a Victory Hall should be built as a war memorial at Park avenue and Forty-second street. No decision was reached. About the same time the Governor and members of the Senate and Assembly were reading and there was lying on the desk of the Mayor at the City Hall a protest by the president of the Parks and Playgrounds Association against a bill now in the Legislature to establish as a private memorial an athletic field in Pelham Bay Park.

Everybody believes that war memorials here and elsewhere are not only desirable things, but represent a positive duty on the part of the public. So the playground is recognized as a benevolent and worthy object. But it is a striking fact that at the present time those who oppose such and such a site for a war monument, or such and such a form for it, are much more active than those who give their support to this, that or the other plan. Even in the case of the Peace Temple which is to be erected in Washington in honor of the Americans who died in the war destructive criticism is not only tolerated but invited by those who are most interested in the project.

This situation is not unsatisfactory. It is a business in which to go slow. It would be better to wait even for ten years and have something worth while, something characteristic of America and her genius, than to get something done simply for the sake of having an end to it.

It was a wise artist who suggested that two old monuments should be covered up for every fresh one that was unveiled.

American History Read in the Stars and Stripes.

It was a good idea to display in the concourse of the Grand Central Station, visited daily by tens of thousands of people, a collection of our national flags, though it shows notable omissions. Spectators must be thankful to the American Legion and to the owner of these noble relics, which of necessity illustrate in part only the evolution of the Stars and Stripes. We must, however, keep in mind the distinction between regimental colors and a national standard. Whatever be our theories, let facts come first and let us have proof rather than argument.

To get at the origin and significance of our national flag and the creative influences moulding its ancestry, shaping it at its birth, causing its changes and modifying its phenomena of growth, we must inquire into its original purpose and meaning before later tradition had so far hardened that to disturb it seems to some little short of sacrilege.

The fundamental idea underlying the Stars and Stripes was first that of a union of colonies in federation, not at first seeking independence but redress and justice. It was not until after July 4, 1776, that a union of States forming the American nation was the purpose in view.

When the first American flag was raised at Cambridge January 1, 1776, our fathers were not rebels, insurgents or secessionists. They were but asserting law, which is older than kings. In 1467 in the Netherlands men of like mind refused to let their sovereign, Mary, the richest heiress in Europe, marry the poor German, Maximilian of Austria, until she signed the charter called the Great Privilege, the basic provision of which was "No taxation without consent." Three centuries later in the British Parliament the same righteous plea was urged. Then our fathers, and literally our grandfathers, raised again the cry of 1467, altering but one word: "No taxation without representation." There was then no thought of rebellion, secession or independence, but only "an appeal to Heaven" for justice.

Already in the spring of 1775 the Philadelphia City Troop had made a new flag of thirteen stripes, and this symbol of union was reenforced by a device in the centre showing thirteen cords knotted at one end. It was under this flag—still preserved under glass—that Washington was escorted northward to Cambridge, where months afterward another flag of thirteen stripes was raised. One of the members of the troop was Colonel Joseph Reed, aide-de-camp of Washington and later Adjutant-General of the Continental army.

Washington's letter to Colonel Reed is the authority telling us of the thirteen striped flag at Cambridge, with the British union jack in the canton in token of loyalty to Great Britain. It was under the union jack that Congress sat during the debate on independence. Nor was this British symbol removed until the Declaration was signed by all who were willing to autograph it, which was not for some months afterward, in September, 1776.

But why stripes? Why thirteen alternate red and white stripes? What did stripes signify?

The fundamental idea was unity of purpose, "One for all and all for one," as Europe's first and still the oldest federal republic makes its national motto. The flag of January 1, 1776, was neither a regimental standard nor the symbol of a nation not yet born, but a proof of the loyalty of colonies.

In 1579, when the ancestors of settlers of our four Middle States met in what they first named the Cradle of Liberty in Utrecht to petition Philip II. for redress, they raised the flag of seven alternate red and white stripes, each standing for a State particular and represented, and with one vote, whether small or large, in the States-General. When their sovereign rejected their appeal they issued their Declaration of Independence, in July, 1581, and thereafter were the United Netherlands. Hundreds of contemporaneous Dutch paintings and thousands of engravings show this as the universal federal flag, seen on all ships and in the armies of these lovers of freedom. First and last the striped flag represented federation, and in their own words, "Unity makes strength."

This flag of 1579 was the first one in Europe to represent with stripes—not bars on a shield—a federal government. It had no canton nor anything whatever to do with kings, dukes, counts, a personal following, or feudalism of any sort. It was the symbol of a union of states forming a nation. No flag like it had ever been seen before.

To derive the Cambridge flag by cutting up into stripes the red flag of England, or from the East India Company's mercantile flag—which was of much later origin and at one time had nine, at another eleven, and not until well in the eighteenth century thirteen stripes—seems like going so far afield as to make "darkness at the base of the lamp."

How long did this Cambridge flag fly? The records show that it was on the staff and lasted less than twenty-four hours, or exactly one stretch of daylight. It was never hoisted again. Saluted by the cannon of Washington's army, the British in Boston—because King George's message denying our fathers' petition had arrived the day before, and copies were early sent into the American camp—thought it meant that "the rebels" had surrendered. Washington in his letter to Colonel Reed, enjoying a good joke, suggested that now Generals Gage and Howe expected the immediate surrender of the whole American line at Cambridge!

But what happened? At sundown the British-American flag was lowered. It was then taken by some Massachusetts soldiers and burned, in derision. The next day and until July 4, 1776, the one flag of the United Colonies was that having thirteen stripes, but with neither field nor canton. Under this emblem of unity our first commissioned warships sailed and under it the battles of Long Island, White Plains, Fort Washington, Trenton and Princeton were fought.

When finally, and largely through the arguments of Thomas Paine—not then, nor for a generation afterward, detested by Americans,* and possibly the only writer of the Revolution time who has left us a detailed eulogy of the Stars and Stripes—Washington and Congress were convinced of the need and right of independence, the immortal Declaration was published July 4, 1776. For nearly a year longer the striped flag was the only national one, though now representing not colonies but sovereign States. There were local flags, State flags and regimental colors, but of the Stars and Stripes, except on ships, we hear little until 1780.

On July 4, 1777, Congress voted the addition of stars, completing thus the symbols of both history and prophecy. The national flag, except arrangement of stars and temporary change in the stripes and multiplication of stars, was fixed for all time.

And what, in form and spirit, was that flag? It had absolutely nothing whatever to do with feudalism, monarchy, autocracy, or individual insignia of any sort, such as crests, coats of arms, personal colors or devices, or even religious beliefs. In poetry, literary phrase or technical description, the lingo of imperialism, kingship, feudal rules, tenures, and emblems, in 1579 and again in 1777, was forever dropped. The flag of the Stars and Stripes has no canton. It never had one. The record and reality is a field.

Let us not be ashamed of that flag of 1776 and early 1777—the starless standard which our fathers acknowledged, carried, suffered and fought under during a year and a half. It was the one flag they counted more sacred than that of State, city or community, or of church order or fraternity. By all means give the thirteen striped flag a place in the development of Old Glory. Let each one have his philosophy of evolution, but never discard or ignore the authentic record of facts.

The thirteen striped and starless flag of 1776 and 1777 was, strange as it may seem, the one expressing most of pure Americanism, for under it Washington and our fathers struggled without foreign aid of any kind. The French alliance was far in the distance. Even with the dim hope before them, Washington warned Americans that they must base their supreme hopes of success not on foreigners, or on European aid or sympathy, but on themselves—a truth which ought to be as manifest to all in 1920 as in 1776.

Antwerp Calls Olympic Athletes.

A double interest attaches to the fact that the Olympic games are to be celebrated this year at Antwerp in pursuance of an agreement arrived at in 1914, before the outbreak of the war. In the first place this revival of the contests emphasizes the restoration in sports of conditions prevailing before the war, and in the second place the holding of the games at Antwerp will greatly aid that city and Belgium in the work of recovering from the devastation of war. The thousands and tens of thousands of visitors who will be attracted to the picturesque old Belgian city next August will naturally leave with its citizens a goodly number of pounds, dollars, francs, lire and perhaps also a few marks, and these will be of service to Belgium in reconstructive work.

Practically all the countries of western Europe as well as the United States, Canada, South Africa and Australia are expected to be represented by athletic teams and all contestants will naturally do their best to bring home as many prizes as possible. The Olympic games have not yet, fortunately, been commercialized, and the greatest incentive to contestants will be the honor achieved by victors in the competition of the athletes of the nations.

The Olympic games held in ancient Greece were designed to promote not only athletics but also the true spirit of sport, and the modern games have similar objects in view. In ancient Greece the Olympic contests were open only to those of pure Hellenic descent who had no personal stigma attaching to them; hence the honor had a high meaning.

Furthermore, in order that the outcome of the games should not be the result of accident or chance the participants were required to take a solemn oath that they had spent at least ten months in preparation and that they would not resort to any unfair trick in the course of the contest. The honor when achieved under such conditions was clean cut and physically at least indicated that the winner approached the Greek ideal of perfection.

In the best days of the games the prize awarded had no intrinsic value and consisted merely of a crown of wild olive leaves cut with a golden knife from a tree said by tradition to have been planted by Hercules. But the cities whose representative won the victory made up for this lack of pecuniary award. At Athens, for instance, the victor received 500 drachme, the right to a place of honor at all public games and free board in the Prytaneum for the rest of his life, a reward which considerably overshadows even the pay of a star baseball player. In addition odes were addressed to him, those of Pindar especially conferring immortality.

The reward of the modern Olympic winner may not be so great as that of the victor of old; but the modern Olympic games should be as useful as the ancient in promoting clean, healthful sport, and the meeting at Antwerp will therefore be of deep interest to followers and advocates of athletics.

Stolen Jewels From the Czar's Palace.

The subjoined paragraph was printed yesterday as a matter of routine news:

> "Jewelry and other property, alleged to have been stolen when a Petrograd mob stormed the Winter Palace of the late Czar Nicholas, which were smuggled into this country, brought on:, $34,300 at public auction at United States Marshal McCarthy's office in the Federal Building yesterday."

In this incident there is an opportunity for debate such as delighted the schoolmen who found intellectual exercise in discussing the number of angels who could stand on the point of a needle.

If the history attributed to these jewels is authentic, when the Government seized them it became the possessor of stolen property. It sold them under the statutes to penalize smuggling. Yet their status as stolen property was not altered by the fact that they had been smuggled into the United States.

The rioters who took them from a palace of the Czars were vulgar thieves. Though the uprising of which they took advantage to commit robbery may be dignified as a revolution, this does not dignify larceny committed under cover of its disorders.

A radical moralist might hold that the Czars had wrung these trinkets from an oppressed and downtrodden people, and hence were not entitled to them. But this would not confer title on the thieves.

Suppose an heir of the Czars should sue the purchaser of these gems; would our courts compel restoration? The Government guarantees nothing at such auctions.

When the schoolmen had worked themselves into a pleasant state of intellectual excitement over the jewels Uncle Sam sold some common person might spoil their argument by asking whether the jewels ever had belonged to the Czars, and reminding the disputants that many an honest domestic stogie has blushed as it heard itself described to a propective buyer as a cigar smuggled from Cuba.

Brewers in convention have formally declared in favor of 2.75 beer because under "scientific tests of recognized experts it has been established as non-intoxicating." Yet if the Edwards 3.50 beer is brewed and sold in New Jersey, what an exodus from Manhattan's dusty shores to Hoboken will be seen on holidays and hot summer nights! Science may be duly appreciated by beer devotees, but in respect of their favorite beverage it will be the mandate which will console, not a laboratory test.

Under a proposed law no airman winging over New York may drop any dangerous missile without special permission so to do. The bill does not define a dangerous missile, but the author may have assumed that any intelligent court would hold the term properly to define an explosive bomb or a bag of franked mail containing propaganda speeches.

Are not the food doctors becoming a bit radical? Having declared against the use of glue in store ice cream they may go to any length: pronounce against the use of cornstarch, gluten, glucose, tapioca, prune pulp, oleomargarine, and reduce the popular delicacy to a mere frozen mixture of nothing but flavored cream and white sugar.

In these days of strong personal government it is natural that Louis XIV.'s "L'Etat c'est moi" should be much in evidence. But let us be just to the distinguished Bourbon! He never said that Voltaire invented the phrase and saddled it on the French sovereign who ought to have made it.

Mr. Bryan seems to think that Rum is the Georgette of the New York Democracy.

Positive Facts.

The Panama National Assembly has closed its session and adjourned sine die.

* * *

For approximately twelve miles from the port, Odessa is ice bound to a depth of between three and four inches.

* * *

Illinois collected $3,262,176 for automobile licenses in 1919.

POEMS WORTH READING.

The Silence of the Snow.

A Russian said: "You do not know, as we,
The beauty of the silence of the snow—
How every ugly noise drowned out can be
As in some clean, white river's blessed flow.
The steppes and lonely izba know its peace;
But our great cities, too, have their release."

These words, in memory long sunken, rose,
When, after night on night of tapping sleet
And ghostly snow o'ershrouding other snows,
The Morning looked upon the trackless street,
And then, for me, from many a vanished year,
Fair pictures of a dreaming farm came near.

Behold another world with its new face!
The countryside in city held strange sway
(Or, so to me it was); for Time and Space
Within a cirque of artful Magic lay.
The soul withdrew to some lost, early mood,
Rapt far away in boundless quietude. . . .

But now, The City, struggling as from swoon,
Turned her uneasily—stretched out an arm;
And helpless lifted up her outcry, soon—
But softened all within the dim snow charm!
With this, the horn of some stalled, venturous car—
The chime of church clock—all from very far.

At last the plough a clean cut furrow heaves—
A marble way through new created land!
Outflutter hungry sparrows from the eaves;
Outflutter, too, the children, sleds in hand.
Their tinkling laughter, in the magic morn,
Seems from some elfin underworld upborne.

EDITH M. THOMAS.

A Connecticut Idyl.

I ever liked to climb the hill,
Its sides austere and unadorned
Save by the cedars dark and still
That seized the ground the tall trees scorned.

In marshes by the tidal streams
I wandered through the sedge and grass
Against the gold of sunset gleams
I watched the duck and bittern pass.

I thought I saw the beauty then
That stole across the countryside,
And changed as change the moods of man
With every rise and fall of tide.

But now I sense the melody
Of twilight meadow, sunlit hill;
The notes of nature's symphony
Reecho with a deeper thrill.

WALDO DANNING.

The Medium.

Though naught but the blankest blank am I,
I make men laugh and I make men cry,
I rouse the weak and I tame the bold;
I thrill the young and I stir the old,
I make the maid and the lover sigh,
And timid children I terrify.
I make stern faces relax grim line;
I make coarse natures know feeling fine;
I fill hard souls with a flame devout;
I hush the breath and I cause the shout.
I make men groan and I make men growl;
I make some grin and I make some scowl;
I make some shiver and some, I shock.
No feeling known fails to swell my stock.

Though naught but the blankest blank am I,
I make men laugh and I make men cry.
The reason why, is right plainly seen;
For I am the Motion Picture Screen!

BLANCHE ELIZABETH WADE.

Landsman.

(Old Point, Va.)

Between the capes the ships go out
To meet the open sea,
Against a wild tide torn about
And wind tossed ceaselessly.
Behind, the still bay harbor lies;
No buoy bells loudly ring;
But the ships fare into distant skies,
Forth finely venturing.

For some must always sail to find an unknown port of call,
And some must still remain behind nor venture forth at all.

I like to watch the white ships go
Down to a mystic sea;
And high adventures all men know
Surge through the heart of me;
And yet I turn and cast my eye
Around the great still bay,
And in my heart I know that I
Shall never sail away.

For some must seek the Orient and some forever roam . . .
And some remain behind content to cruise about at home.

Fine countries lie out Europe way
Toward the rising sun
Beyond the capes, and all the day
The great ships one by one
Go down the bay, across the Roads,
To seek a far wide lane . . .
And still no restless spirit goads
Me out and on again.

For some must stand upon the deck to hear the whispering lips,
The luring lips, that fly before the prows of outbound ships.

I hold contented men to be
The happiest men of all;
Yet some of these will ever be
Pursuing some vague call.
But I am glad that such as I
Feel never the urge to roam,
But here, while questing ships go by,
May cruise about at home.

For some go down to the sea in ships at a breath of salty foam,
But some turn backward to the land and answer the call of home.

GARNETT LAIDLAW ESKEW.

The Snag.

I'm able to read Greek with ease;
I do not hem and haw
When I explain the subtleties
Of logic and the law.
I'm great at showing the intent
Of all philosophy,
And sun and moon and stars present
Few mysteries to me.

Yet Ruth, so simple in her ways
And wholly without guile,
Who treats with scorn my ardent lays
And mocks me all the while,
Who flouts me most outrageously
Though I'm her worshiper,
Is such a puzzle unto me—
I cannot fathom her!

NATHAN M. LEVY.

At the Verge of March.

It is not ever that the outer ear
Bears us the joy for which our hearts are fain;
Sometimes we sense the music of the rain
Ere its first silvern melody we hear.
Sometimes we feel the grieving sea is near
Before we hark its never silent strain;
Sometimes we mark the veering of the vane
Ere the wind trumpets sound their clamor clear.

So now I am inscrutably aware
Of moving wings that beat against the day,
Of swift migrations stirring from afar;
The clouds betray strange murmurings in the air,
Breathings seep up from out the frozen clay,
And there are whisperings from the twilight star.

CLINTON SCOLLARD.

OUR DISTURBED ELEMENTS.

And they awake him and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still.—Mark, iv., 38, 39.

The Master in the stern of the tempest tossed boat was the ballast of both the ship and the storm. The winds and the waves were not destroyed, but balanced into a calm. To-day something like a tornado has swept down upon our normal national life and lashed it into a fury, as the winds did upon the Galilean Sea. A country like ours, still in the process of opening up her vast domain, will naturally be in danger of a perilous combination of elements.

Whenever alien and un-American minds collect en masse there is a tipping up of our standards. They keep "rocking the boat." The need is for a moving ballast, for equilibrium producing powers. We have been endeavoring to solve this problem by dealing with it in a general way; now we know there is but one way, namely, equilibrium in the units.

There is a "mind within the mind" of the alien that has not yet been touched. May we not call it the "soul of the mind"? It is rather an incongruous thing that we create all sorts of institutions, but have not yet seen the supreme need of a permanent institution to foster American ideals.

An ordinary education will not do it. The most dangerous radical may be well taught and still a villain and a traitor. Whole civilizations built on intellectual philosophies can be utterly destroyed in less than a decade. We have seen it. A people never endure on their headwork, but always upon the moral deposit in their souls. This is the heritage that passes from generation to generation.

If it is feasible and justifiable to confiscate railroads, call into the service the press, utilize organizations and conscript our man power to make the world safe, it is just as important to call to service some of our wealth, our press and our schools, and a selection of public minded men and women, not only to inculcate political knowledge in the mind, but also to instil our spiritual ideals in the heart. Language, as the vehicle of ideal, occupies a conspicuous place in this programme. Every alien should know the English language. This is important. Papers published in foreign tongues might well be strictly censored. Most of the bleeding wounds we bear have been stabs of the alien tongues. There can be no thorough Americanization without a common tongue.

There is an incident recorded in the early history of Israel which is rather amusing, where the people contended that they just put their jewelry into the furnace and it came out a golden calf. Of course, they did not shape the mould nor use graving tools! It just happened. Things don't "just turn out;" they are turned out.

Our business is more fundamental. It is the shaping, the framing of the mind, that all turned out shall bear the stamp of our ideals. Most minds that land here are primed for cash. We must be quick with our graving tools and reprime them for character. There are many helpful influences that might be brought to bear upon th matter—a general circulation of homely and practical philosophy, for instance. Men of the type of A. C. Benson, Gilbert K. Chesterton, Henry Clay Trumbull, F. W. Boreham, Bruce Barton and Dr. Frank Crane could turn their hearts to this work.

This would give us something more than the gold standard; would create spiritual power in the common mind, inspire contentment and calm. It would set forth the saving fact that there are many kinds of riches in America, and best of all those that bring enjoyment to the mind and the soul. It would amount to getting into the caves of the winds and pacifying them before they are loosed to lash our life into a tempest: for "that which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man," and corrupts his neighbor.

RAYMOND LALOR FORMAN, D. D.,
Pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, West End avenue and Eighty-sixth street.

MESSAGES TO MARS.

An Engineer Advises Electricians to Try Wireless Pictures.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: Referring to your editorial article on Mars I have often wondered if the young man who was willing to be shot to Mars ever realized the speed at which he would have to travel and the length of time it would take.

Assuming a speed of 100 miles a minute, he would travel 6,000 miles an hour or 144,000 miles a day, and have to keep this rate up for 350 days to travel 50,000,000 miles, which I believe is the shortest distance to Mars.

Not considering the possibility of taking or manufacturing a sufficient supply of fresh air, food and other supplies, and the trifling matter of controlling the direction and being able to reduce the speed for a landing, would not any ordinary metal be rendered so hot by such terrific speed that the occupants would be roasted and then pulverized?

Referring to the difficulty of understanding a Martian language by wireless, why not put it up to the electrical geniuses so to develop the art of sending and receiving pictures by wireless that when the "high brow" gentlemen and ladies in Mars send in their pictures we will be able to reciprocate?

T. KENNARD THOMSON.

NEW YORK, February 28.

One Way Snow Trails.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: I would like to indorse the common sense of "Citizen's" letter as regards one way trails through the snow.

Only yesterday my car and a truck which were endeavoring to pass each other became wedged together, and it was only after much waste of time and labor that they could be separated.

If "Citizen's" suggestion were adopted such accidents could never occur.

G. R. SPERGREEN.

NEW YORK, February 28.

An Innocent Bystander in the Smith Family Debate.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: Referring to the letter of O. B. Ackerly printed on February 25, I do not see why he drags me into the matter. I have never written of Colonel William Smith as Governor or Mayor to my knowledge.

AHINGTON H. CARMAN.

PATCHOGUE, February 28.

Notice From England to Dry America.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: If the States do not stop being a dry country within one month there will be trouble.

THE KILLER.

SHREWSBURY, England, February 11.

SIX MEN TO AN ASH CAN.

Yonkers Sees Its Own Perfection in a Picture of Another City.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: Your editorial article on "Six Men to a Can of Ashes" is not entirely correct. The city is Yonkers, and two or four men come early and remove the ash can from the cellar to the sidewalk; a little later the cart comes along and two men empty the can into the cart; they leave the can on the pavement and other men follow up and place the can in the cellar.

It is an ideal service and Yonkers is one of the cleanest cities in the country on that account, and every taxpayer is glad to pay a slight addition in taxes and have such services performed. Were they performed for every individual householder by employing outside help the cost would be many times what is paid in taxes, and we would not have as nearly perfect a city as we have. Other municipalities could well pattern after Yonkers.

WILLIAM E. MARTER.

YONKERS, February 28.

IS ARMY PAY EXEMPT?

Another Interpretation of the State Income Tax Law.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: Regarding your statement that the State income tax penalizes the discharged soldiers by compelling them to deduct their army pay from the allowed exemption of $1,000 or $2,000, permit me to say that the act does not seem to sustain the Comptroller's construction.

Section 359, subdivision F, permits the deduction in arriving at gross income of "salary, wages and other compensation received from the United States of officials or employees thereof, including persons in the military or naval forces of the United States." Subdivision 3 of section 362 does not compel the taxation of that deduction so far as discharged soldiers are concerned. It only provides that there shall be deducted from the exemption of $1,000 or $2,000 the salary or wages that a taxpayer is "receiving" "as an official" of the United States Government.

Obviously the intention shown by these two sections is in the first to exempt the soldier from a tax on his army income and in the second to compel officials of the United States Government to pay a tax on such salary as they are receiving. It certainly is stretching the language of the second section to hold that the discharged soldier is an official of the United States Government within the meaning of that section from which the Legislature has carefully omitted the words "including persons in the military or naval forces of the United States."

I have accordingly advised such of my clients as are discharged soldiers that the Comptroller and his advisers have misconstrued the law in this respect in the blank issued by him.

HENRY HIRSCHBERG.

NEWBURGH, February 28.

MYSTERIES OF PROPOSING.

Part Played in the Affair by the Man, the Girl and Chance.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: The following appeared on your editorial page:

> After all the important question is not, Should woman propose? but the other one, How often on the average do men find it necessary to do so?

Would you have the goodness to interpret the question, "How often on the average do men find it necessary to do so?" As I see it this question may mean four things:

1. How often does a man find it unnecessary to propose to a girl for the reason that the girl does the proposing?
2. How often on the average does a man have to propose to a girl before she accepts him?
3. To how many girls does a man have to propose on the average before he finds one who will have him?
4. How often on the average is a formal proposal made at all by either side, that is, how often on the average do the lady and the gentleman in a sentimental moment in the moonlight or the twilight or the firelight reach an understanding and agreement without formal discussion of the matter?

ARTHUR CRABB.

PHILADELPHIA, February 28.

A Woman's Verdict on MacStay.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: I see Commissioner MacStay is pleased with the snow removal. He must be easily pleased.

I never wished to be a suffragist till now. It needs a little woman to get a move on the most lazy.

Oh, I cannot find words to express my disgust at the way the city's money is wasted.

MRS. T. H. L.

BROOKLYN, February 28.

Cost of Smashing Nine Wine Barrels.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: Major Dalrymple's well advertised expedition succeeded in destroying nine barrels of homemade wine in Iron River, Mich.

It would be interesting to learn at what cost a barrel to the taxpayers of this country this was done.

L. M. OGDEN.

NEW YORK, February 28.

Favorable Report on Mate as a Drink.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: My first cup of maté or Paraguayan tea was trimmed with sugar and a slice of lemon. I found it good and the liking grew until I dispensed with the lemon and later with the sugar and enjoyed my beverage straight.

I found the decoction an excellent nerve tonic as well as a great digestive aid. After using it three years my grocer was unable to obtain it, and I was therefore obliged to discontinue its use.

MONTICELLO, February 28. VEGETA.

The Two Sides.

From the Graduate Magazine.

At 5 o'clock the other day I overtook two neighbors of mine. One was a carpenter, on the way home after eight hours of work and under obligation to work no more at his trade that day. The other was an instructor of English, also on the way home after eight hours of work, but about to work four hours more. They were discussing the usual subject. "Before the war," said the carpenter, "I got 35 cents an hour for my work, and it bought me a pound of butter; now I get 70 cents an hour for my work, and it still buys me a pound of butter."

The instructor smiled. "Before the war," he said, "I got 35 cents an hour for my work, and it bought me a pound of butter; now I get 38 cents an hour for my work, and it buys me a pound of oleomargarine."

Paradise Regained.

From the London Daily Mail.

Near Chalfont St. Giles a new poultry farm has been called the "Paradise Poultry Farm," and is being advertised:

"Nearby is Milton's cottage—classic ground; He wrote of 'Paradise Lost,' but here 'tis found."

The Sun
AND
THE NEW YORK HERALD.

THE SUN was founded by Ben Day in 1833; THE NEW YORK HERALD was founded by James Gordon Bennett in 1835. THE SUN passed into the control of Charles A. Dana in 1868. It became the property of Frank A. Munsey in 1916. THE NEW YORK HERALD remained the sole property of its founder until his death in 1872, when his son, also James Gordon Bennett, succeeded to the ownership of the paper, which continued in his hands until his death in 1918. THE HERALD became the property of Frank A. Munsey in 1920.

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There are about 650 advertisement receiving stations located throughout New York city and vicinity where Sun-Herald advertisements will be received at office rates and forwarded for publication.

Daily Calendar

THE WEATHER.

For Eastern New York—Snow to-day; partly cloudy and colder to-morrow; northwest winds.

For New Jersey—Rain or snow to-day; fresh east to south winds; fair and colder to-morrow; fresh northwest winds.

For Northern New England—Snow to-day, with rising temperature; snow and colder to-morrow; fresh east winds.

For Southern New England—Snow to-day; partly cloudy and colder to-morrow; fresh east to south winds.

For Western New York—Snow and colder to-day; to-morrow, fair, except snow near lakes.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The outstanding feature of the weather map last night was a trough of low pressure extending from the lower lakes to the west Gulf coast, with several distinct centres of low pressure. Pressure is unusually high over the north Rocky Mountain region, with strong north winds and low temperatures over the Southern plains States. There has been snow in the lake region and the Ohio Valley, also in the middle Rocky Mountain region, and rain in the lower Mississippi Valley and the west Gulf States.

Snow is indicated for to-morrow in New England, the north portion of the middle Atlantic States and the lake region, and rain in the south Atlantic and east Gulf States. It will be decidedly colder in Tennessee and the east Gulf States to-morrow and much colder weather Monday will overspread Atlantic coast districts and northern Florida. Advisory southeast storm warnings were ordered at 9:30 P. M. on Atlantic coast from Norfolk to Boston. Storm developing over Alabama and moving rapidly northeast. Strong easterly winds with snow indicated for next twenty-four hours.

Observations at United States Weather Bureau stations taken at 8 P. M. yesterday, seventy-fifth meridian time:

Stations.	Temperature last 24 hrs. High	Low.	Barometer.	Rainfall last 24 hrs	Weather.
Abilene	50	28	30.28	..	Cloudy
Albany	22	—2	30.02	.02	Cloudy
Atlantic City	34	22	30.06	..	Cloudy
Baltimore	38	34	30.00	..	Cloudy
Bismarck	14	10	30.50	..	Clear
Boston	22	4	30.18	..	Cloudy
Buffalo	26	14	29.84	..	....
Charleston	44	34	30.15	..	Clear
Chicago	28	24	30.12	T	Pt. Cldy
Cincinnati	34	30	30.04	..	Cloudy
Cleveland	24	22	30.00	.06	Snow
Denver	18	16	30.56	.08	Snow
Detroit	24	20	30.00	.14	Cloudy
Galveston	64	62	29.98	.04	Cloudy
Helena	18	8	30.60	..	Clear
Jacksonville	48	38	30.16	..	Clear
Kansas City	28	26	30.36	..	Cloudy
Los Angeles	60	56	30.23	T.	Rain
Milwaukee	22	20	30.06	T.	Clear
New Orleans	54	46	30.07	.02	Rain
Oklahoma	44	32	30.34	..	Clear
Philadelphia	32	30	30.06	..	Cloudy
Pittsburg	30	24	30.00	.02	Cloudy
Portland, Me.	14	—4	30.18	..	Clear
Portland, Ore.	50	44	30.26	..	Clear
Salt Lake City	40	34	30.22	.48	Pt. Cldy
San Antonio	66	50	30.00	.02	Pt. Cldy
San Diego	64	56	30.16	..	Cloudy
San Francisco	56	50	30.20	.04	Cloudy
St. Louis	34	32	30.18	..	Cloudy
Washington	40	22	30.05	..	Cloudy

LOCAL WEATHER RECORDS.

	8 A. M.	8 P. M.
Barometer	30.33	30.07
Humidity	51	52
Wind—direction	S.W.	S.
Wind—velocity	10	24
Weather	Clear	Cloudy
Precipitation	None	Trace

The temperature in this city yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table:

8 A. M.	20	1 P. M.	27	6 P. M.	20
9 A. M.	24	2 P. M.	27	7 P. M.	[illegible]
10 A. M.	27	3 P. M.	27	8 P. M.	[illegible]
11 A. M.	27	4 P. M.	29	9 P. M.	[illegible]
12 M.	26	5 P. M.	30	10 P. M.	[illegible]

	1920.	1919.		1920.	1919.
9 A. M.	20	40	6 P. M.	20	44
12 M.	26	46	9 P. M.	21	47
3 P. M.	27	50	12 Mid.	20	46

Highest temperature, 31, at 8 A. M.
Lowest temperature, 14, at 6:15 A. M.
Average temperature, 22.

EVENTS TO-DAY.

American Hellenic Society, private view of Greek Government's exhibition of pictures by Frederic Boissonnas, Grand Central Palace, 2:30 P. M.

Gen. Pershing, dinner with American Legion's benefit concert committee, Knickerbocker Club, 307 Fifth avenue, 7 P. M.

Federation for Support of Jewish Charities, supper, dance and concert, Hotel Astor, 8 P. M.

American Legion, New York county organization, benefit concert, John McCormack and Mary Garden to appear; Gen. Pershing, guest of honor; Hippodrome, 8:15 P. M.

Three Hundred and Fifth Infantry Post, American Legion, musicale, by old auxiliary of regiment, Seventy-seventh Division clubhouse, 27 West Twenty-fifth street, 2:30 P. M.

James S. Slosson Post and Cornelius A. Crilly Post, American Legion, joint memorial service, Curtis Lyceum, St. George, Staten Island, 3:30 P. M.

New York Drama League, annual dinner, dramatic feature by Walter Hampden, Granville Barker and others to speak, Hotel McAlpin, 7 P. M.

"Woman's Place in the New Era," Beatrice Forbes-Robertson Hale, Brooklyn Civic Forum, Public School, 84, Glenmore and Stone avenues, Brooklyn, 8 P. M.

"Bolshevism as I Know It," lecture by Princess Cantacuzene-Speransky, Church of St. John the Evangelist, 224 Waverley place, 8 P. M.

"The Real British Attitude Toward America," lecture by F. H. Kent, public forum, Public School 101, Lexington avenue and 111th street, 8:15 P. M.

Organ recital, Archibald Sessions, Washington Irving High School, Irving place and Fifteenth street, 2:30 P. M.

Bolivian delegation to second Pan-American Financial Conference, dinner, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, 7:30 P. M.

Health Commissioner Royal S. Copeland will speak on "Health and Industry" in Mother Zion Church, 153 West 136th street, 3 P. M.

West Side Y. M. C. A., 318 West Fifty-seventh street, Dr. H. W. Taylor, "Faith and Practice," forum, 3 P. M.; motion picture, "The Stream of Life," 4 P. M.; S. W. Graffin, "Social Principles of Jesus"; Dr. L. R. Welzmiller on "Health and Happiness," and R. I. Guthman on "Franklin," 5:15 P. M.

"The Architectural Growth of New York," lecture by R. F. Bach, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 4 P. M.

Golden Rule Forum, meeting, Hotel Majestic, Central Park West at Seventy-second street, 4:30 P. M.

Illustrated lecture, "Life and Property and Fire," by James O'Connell, Central Church, Disciples of Christ, 142 West Eighty-first street, 8 P. M.

Joint recital by Frances Gould and Miss Schulman, Straus Auditorium, 197 East Broadway, 8:15 P. M.

"America's Contribution to Liberty," address by Nicholas Murray Butler, men's conference meeting, Bedford Branch Y. M. C. A., Bedford avenue and Monroe street, Brooklyn, 3:30 P. M.